DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 097 942 JC 740 436

AUTHOR	MacDougall, Allan
TITLE	A Study of Students Completely Withdrawing from Southwestern College, Fall 1973. (Parts I and II).
INSTITUTION	Southwestern Coll., Chula Vista, Calif.
PUB DATE	Apr 74
NOTE	20p.
EDRS PRICE	MF-$0.75 HC-$1.50 PLUS POSTAGE
DESCRIPTORS	Charts; *College Students; *Community Colleges; *Dropout Research; *Factor Analysis; *Institutional Research; Persistence; Post Secondary Education; Tables (Data); Technical Reports
IDENTIFIERS	California; *Southwestern College

ABSTRACT

Conducted as part of a continuing effort to understand the nature of persistence and withdrawal at Southwestern College, this study focused on the student who signs up for classes, is active on the census date, but completely withdraws from school before the end of the semester. The study provides the following: (1) the descriptive statistics, the number and percentage of those withdrawing; (2) factors associated with withdrawal; (3) replication/validation of findings from earlier studies; (4) comparisons between Southwestern College and California state-wide coverage; and (5) data to make longitudinal comparisons. Results of the study, which are tabulated and charted, show: (1) withdrawal rates at the college have remained essentially the same for the past 10 years; (2) the withdrawal rates for the college for fall 1973 are essentially the same as the average reported for 32 California community colleges for the same semester; (3) differences in sex, marital status, number of units completed, full- or part-time status, educational objective, transfer goal, and financial aid affect withdrawal and persistence rates; (4) there are no significant differences in withdrawal rates based on ethnic background; (5) the factor most strongly related to persistence is financial aid; (6) part-time students withdraw at a rate five times greater than full-time students; (7) full-time students with no specific departmental major are twice as likely to withdraw as those with a major; (8) certain departments have higher persistence rates among full-time day students who are majors, whereas other departments have lower persistence rates among majors; and (9) there is a direct relationship between the number of units taken and the rate of persistence. (DB)

ED 097942

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
EDUCATION & WELFARE
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF
EDUCATION

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

A STUDY OF STUDENTS COMPLETELY WITHDRAWING FROM SOUTHWESTERN COLLEGE FALL 1973

SOUTHWESTERN COLLEGE
CHULA VISTA, CALIFORNIA

Prepared By:
Dr. Allan MacDougall
Research Coordinator
April 1974

JC 740 436

PURPOSE

With the advent of a second census week and increased legislative and public concern, this study was conducted as part of a continuing effort to understand the nature of persistance and withdrawal at Southwestern College. This study focused on the student who signs up for classes, is active on census date, but completely withdraws from school before the end of the semester.

This study has the following objectives:

1) Report the descriptive statistics, the number and percentage of those withdrawing.

2) Identify those factors associated with withdrawal.

3) Replicate/validate findings from earlier studies.

4) Provide comparisons between Southwestern College and California state wide average.

5) Provide data to make longitudinal comparisons.

RESULTS

The following table reports the basic enrollment and withdrawal data for Fall 1973:

SOUTHWESTERN COLLEGE	DAY		EVENING	TOTAL
	Full Time	Part Time		
Census Enrollment	3204	2097	4181	9482
Number Completely Withdrawing	148	477	997	1622
Per cent Withdrawing	5%	23%	24%	17%
California State* Per cent Withdrawing	7%	21%	26%	18%

* Figures from Co-ordinating Council Statewide Study of Persistance, Report #3, February 1974

On the whole, Southwestern College has marginally lower withdrawal rates than the average of the thirty-two (32) community colleges studied in the statewide Persistance Study. None of the differences, however, are statistically significant.

The following table based on over-all withdrawals after census shows the withdrawal rates for the Fall semester for the past ten years:

YEAR	'64	'65	'66	'67	'68	'69	'70	'71	'72	'73
Over-all complete withdrawal rate	17%	17%	16%	20%	22%	23%	21%	16%	18%	17%

Figure I shows the enrollment and withdrawal statistics for all students and full time students. The percentage of all students withdrawing has remained constant over the years.

Figures II and III identify the persistance rates of day and evening students based on a number of different characteristics. The Southwestern average is indicated by the vertical dotted line. Those factors to the left of the line indicate relatively lower persistance (higher withdrawal) rates. Those factors to the right indicate higher persistance. The asterisk (*) indicates differences of statistical significance.

These results support and clarify the findings of a study of withdrawals at Southwestern based on data from Fall 1971.

CONCLUSIONS

1. Withdrawal rates at Southwestern have remained essentially the same for the past 10 years.

2. The Southwestern College withdrawal rates for Fall 1973 are essentially the same as the average reported for a study of thirty-two California Community Colleges for the same semester.

3. Differences in sex, martial status, number of units completed, full or part status, educational objective, transfer goal, or financial aid all affect withdrawal and persistance rates.

4. There are no significant differences in withdrawal rates based on ethnic background or type of program.

5. The single factor most strongly related to persistance is financial aid.

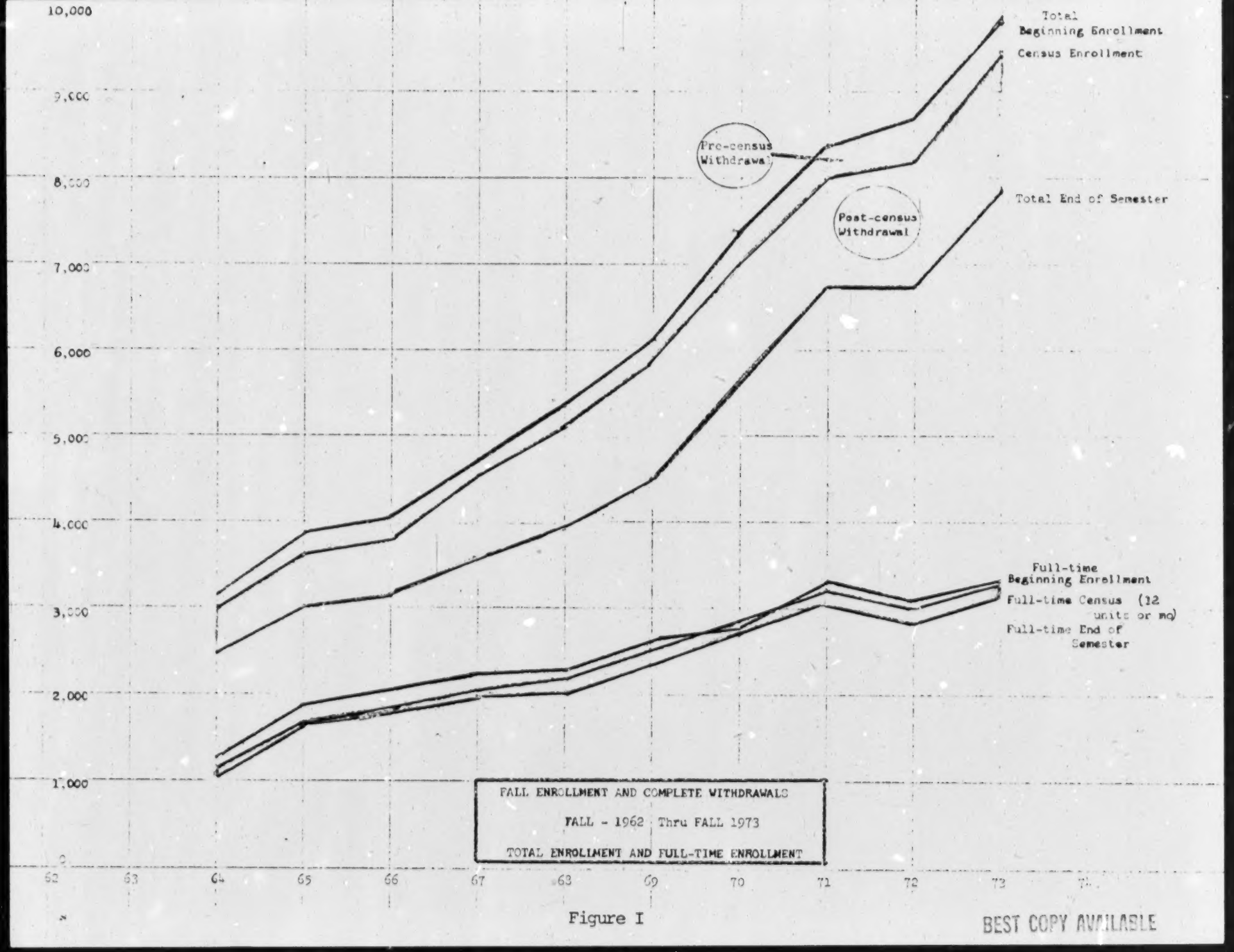
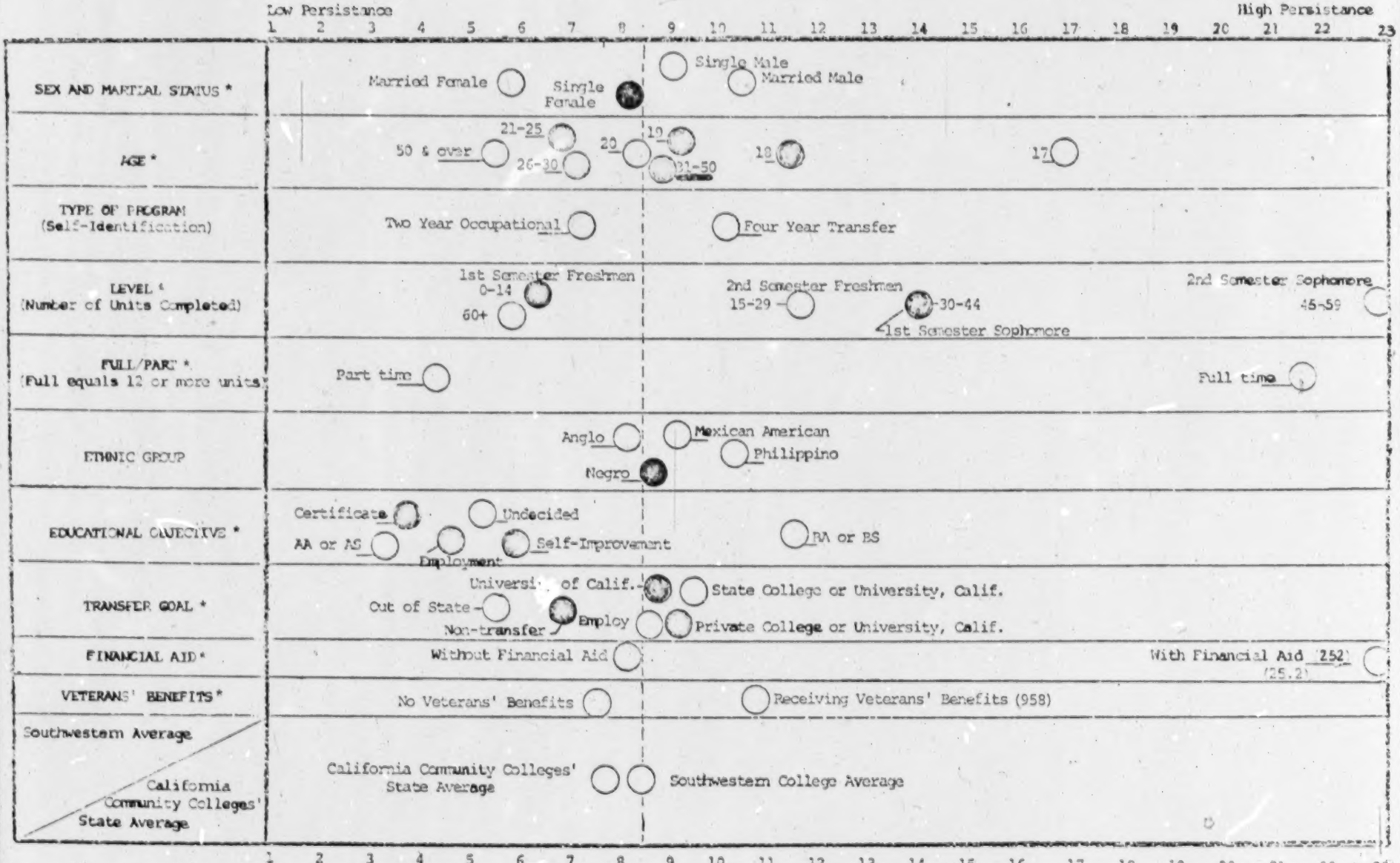


Figure I

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

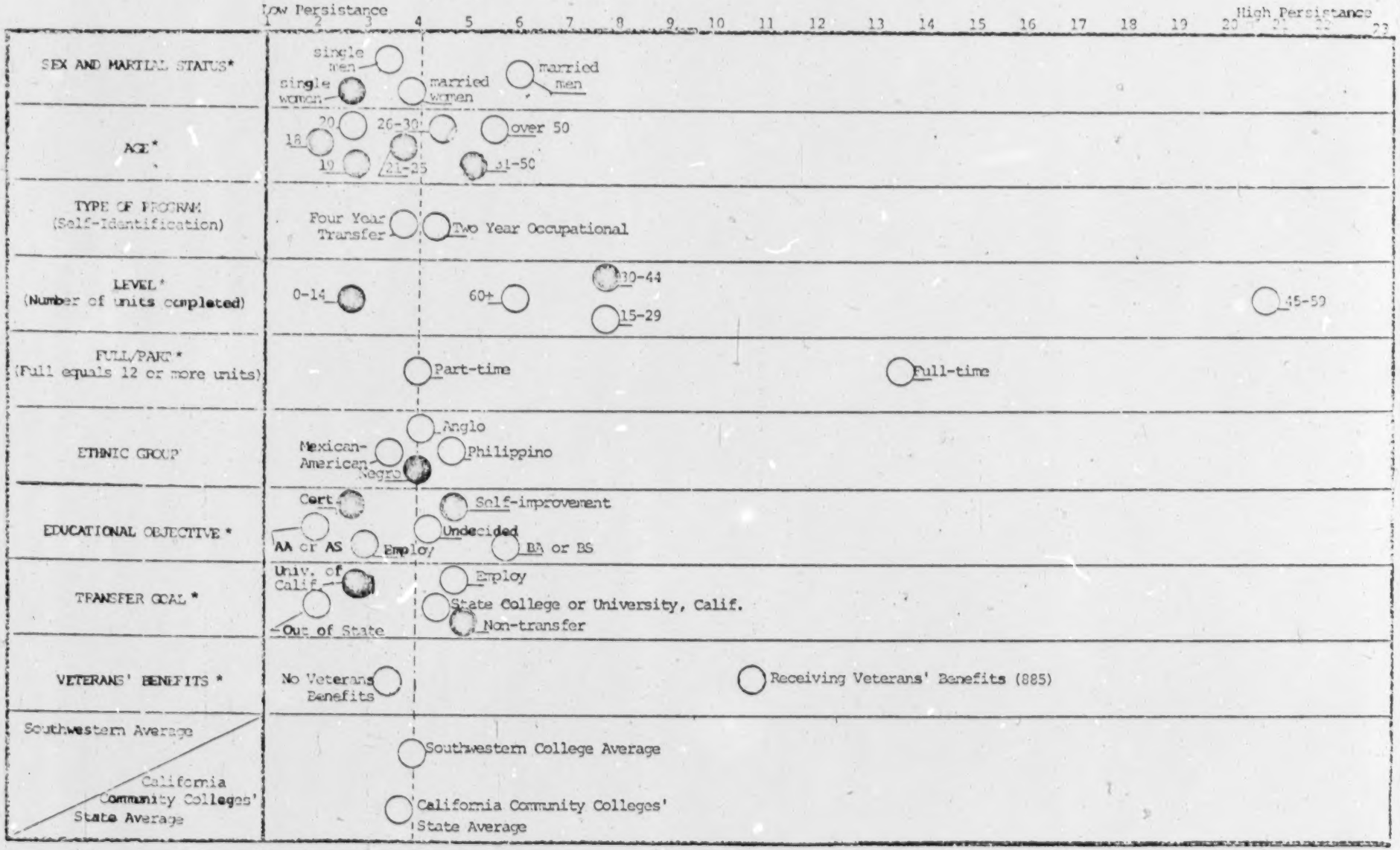
BEST COPY AVAILABLE

SOUTHWESTERN COLLEGE PERSISTANCE RATES
BY CHARACTERISTIC - NUMBER OF
STUDENTS STAYING FOR EACH STUDENT WITHDRAWING
DAY STUDENTS - FALL 1973



BEST COPY AVAILABLE

SOUTHWESTERN COLLEGE PERSISTANCE RATES
BY CHARACTERISTIC - NUMBER OF
STUDENTS STAYING FOR EACH STUDENT WITHDRAWING
EVENING STUDENTS - FALL 1973



FALL 1973 - SOUTHWESTERN COLLEGE
COMPLETE WITHDRAWALS BETWEEN CENSUS DATE AND END OF SEMESTER
BY SEX AND MARTIAL STATUS

		SEX		MARTIAL STATUS	
AT CENSUS DATE - Oct. 1, 1973	ALL STUDENTS	MALE	FEMALE	MARRIED	SINGLE
Day -					
- Number of Students	5301	2946	2355	1712	3589
- Number Completely Withdrawing	625	305	320	217	408
- Per cent	11.7%	10.3%	13.5%	12.6%	11.3%
- Withdrawal Rate	1 in 9	1 in 10	1 in 7	1 in 8	1 in 9
Evening -					
- Number of Students	4181	2627	1554	2745	1436
- Number Completely Withdrawing	997	534	463	541	456
- Per cent	23.8%	20.3%	29.9%	19.7%	31.7%
- Withdrawal Rate	1 in 5	1 in 5	1 in 3	1 in 5	1 in 3
Total From Census -					
- Number of Students	9482	5573	3909	4457	5025
- Number Completely Withdrawing	1622	839	783	758	864
- Per cent	17.1%	15.0%	20.0%	17.0%	17.1%
- Withdrawal Rate	1 in 6	1 in 7	1 in 5	1 in 6	1 in 6

FALL 1973 - SOUTHWESTERN COLLEGE
COMPLETE WITHDRAWALS BETWEEN CENSUS DATE AND END OF SEMESTER
BY AGE

AT CENSUS DATE-OCT. 1, 1973	16	17	18	19	20	21-25	26-30	31-50	over 50
Day -									
- Number of Students	21	236	950	843	536	1169	541	873	132
- Number Completely Withdrawing	4	14	83	91	64	171	75	99	24
- Per cent	19.0%	5.9%	8.7%	10.8%	11.9%	14.6%	13.9%	11.3%	18.2%
- Withdrawal Rate	1 in 5	1 in 17	1 in 11	1 in 9	1 in 8	1 in 7	1 in 7	1 in 9	1 in 5
Evening -									
- Number of Students	4	36	122	152	204	1085	804	1527	247
- Number Completely Withdrawing	2	8	59	53	77	299	177	275	47
- Per cent	50.0%	22.2%	48.3%	34.8%	37.7%	27.5%	22.0%	18.0%	19.0%
- Withdrawal Rate	1 in 2	1 in 5	1 in 2	1 in 3	1 in 3	1 in 4	1 in 5	1 in 6	1 in 5
Total -									
- Number of Students	25	272	1072	995	740	2254	1345	2400	379
- Number Completely Withdrawing	6	22	142	144	141	470	252	374	71
- Per cent	24.0%	8.0%	13.2%	14.4%	19.0%	20.8%	18.7%	15.5%	18.7%
- Withdrawal Rate	1 in 4	1 in 13	1 in 8	1 in 7	1 in 5	1 in 5	1 in 5	1 in 6	1 in 5

FALL 1973 - SOUTHWESTERN COLLEGE
COMPLETE WITHDRAWALS BETWEEN CENSUS DATE AND END OF SEMESTER
BY SEMESTER

AT CENSUS DATE - OCT. 1, 1973	1	2	3	4	5-9
Day -					
- Number of Students	2644	922	679	807	249
- Number Completely Withdrawing	420	80	48	34	43
- Per cent	15.9%	8.7%	7.0%	4.2%	17.3%
- Withdrawal Rate	1 in 6	1 in 11	1 in 14	1 in 24	1 in 6
Evening -					
- Number of Students	2304	587	346	505	439
- Number Completely Withdrawing	783	75	44	24	71
- Per cent	33.9%	12.7%	12.7%	4.7%	16.1%
- Withdrawal Rate	1 in 3	1 in 8	1 in 8	1 in 21	1 in 6
Total -					
- Number of Students	4943	1509	1025	1312	688
- Number Completely Withdrawing	1203	155	92	58	114
- Per cent	24.3%	10.2%	8.9%	4.4%	16.5%
- Withdrawal Rate	1 in 4	1 in 10	1 in 11	1 in 23	1 in 6

FALL 1973 - SOUTHWESTERN COLLEGE
COMPLETE WITHDRAWALS BETWEEN CENSUS DATE AND END OF SEMESTER
BY ETHNIC CLASSIFICATION

AT CENSUS DATE-Oct. 1, 1973	ALL STUDENTS	MEXICAN-AMERICANS	AMERICAN WHITE	NEGRO/ BLACK	CHINESE-JAPANESE	INDIAN	PHILIPPINE/ FOREIGN	MINORITIES TOTAL
Full Time -								
- Number of Students	3354	529	2437	108	40	15	225	917
- Number Completely Withdrawing	159	19	122	6	2	2	8	37
- Per cent	4.7%	3.6%	5.0%	5.6%	5.0%	13.3%	3.6%	4.0%
- Withdrawal Rate	1 in 21	1 in 28	1 in 20	1 in 18	1 in 20	1 in 8	1 in 27	1 in 25
Part Time -								
- Number of Students	6128	795	4820	152	44	27	290	1308
- Number Completely Withdrawing	1463	206	1138	37	14	6	62	325
- Per cent	23.1%	25.9%	23.6%	24.3%	31.8%	22.2%	21.4%	24.9%
- Withdrawal Rate	1 in 4	1 in 4	1 in 4	1 in 4	1 in 3	1 in 5	1 in 5	1 in 4
Day -								
- Number of Students	5301	849	3879	157	62	21	333	1422
- Number Completely Withdrawing	625	93	472	18	8	2	32	153
- Per cent	11.8%	11.0%	12.2%	11.5%	12.9%	9.5%	9.0%	10.8%
- Withdrawal Rate	1 in 8	1 in 9	1 in 8	1 in 9	1 in 8	1 in 10	1 in 10	1 in 9
Evening -								
- Number of Students	4181	475	3378	103	22	21	182	803
- Number Completely Withdrawing	997	132	788	25	8	6	38	209
- Per cent	23.8%	27.8%	23.3%	24.3%	36.4%	28.6%	20.9%	26.0%
- Withdrawal Rate	1 in 4	1 in 4	1 in 4	1 in 4	1 in 3	1 in 3	1 in 5	1 in 4
Total From Census -								
- Number of Students	9482	1324	7257	260	84	42	515	2225
- Number Completely Withdrawing	1622	225	1260	43	16	8	70	362
- Per cent	17.2%	17.0%	17.4%	16.5%	19.0%	19.0%	13.8%	16.3%
- Withdrawal Rate	1 in 6	1 in 6	1 in 6	1 in 6	1 in 5	1 in 5	1 in 7	1 in 6

FALL 1973 - SOUTHWESTERN COLLEGE
COMPLETE WITHDRAWALS BETWEEN CENSUS DATE AND END OF SEMESTER
BY TRANSFER GOAL

AT CENSUS DATE-OCT. 1, 1973	ALL STUDENTS	NON-TRANSFER	S.C.CAL.	S.U.CAL.	PRIVATE	OUT OF STATE	EMPLOY
Day -							
- Number of Students	5301	2024	1522	588	270	170	405
- Number Completely Withdrawing	625	291	160	67	29	31	47
- Per cent	11.7%	14.3%	10.5%	11.3%	10.7%	18.2%	11.6%
- Withdrawal Rate	1 in 9	1 in 7	1 in 10	1 in 9	1 in 9	1 in 5	1 in 9
Evening -							
- Number of Students	4181	2894	688	276	73	101	521
- Number Completely Withdrawing	997	575	152	93	19	48	110
- Per cent	23.8%	19.8%	22.0%	33.7%	26.0%	47.5%	21.1%
- Withdrawal Rate	1 in 5	1 in 5	1 in 5	1 in 3	1 in 4	1 in 2	1 in 5

COMPLETE WITHDRAWALS BETWEEN CENSUS DATE AND END OF SEMESTER
BY EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVE

AT CENSUS DATE - Oct. 1, 1973	AA or AS	BA or BS	EMPLOY	CERTIFICATE	SELF-IMPROVE	UNDECIDED
Day -						
- Number of Students	536	1786	131	207	556	717
- Number Completely Withdrawing	159	155	28	54	93	135
- Per cent	29.7%	8.6%	21.3%	26.0%	16.7%	18.8%
- Withdrawal Rate	1 in 3	1 in 12	1 in 5	1 in 4	1 in 6	1 in 5
Evening -						
- Number of Students	403	907	134	198	1010	1457
- Number Completely Withdrawing	190	154	44	71	209	328
- Per cent	47.1%	16.9%	32.8%	35.8%	20.7%	22.5%
- Withdrawal Rate	1 in 2	1 in 6	1 in 3	1 in 3	1 in 5	1 in 4

A STUDY OF STUDENTS COMPLETELY WITHDRAWING FROM SOUTHWESTERN COLLEGE FALL 1973 (PART II)

Prepared By
Dr. Allan MacDougall
Research Coordinator
June 1974

This report contains additional data to supplement the findings of the earlier withdrawal study (April, 1974).

Tables 1 and 2 show the persistance rates for Declared Majors by department for part/full and day/evening status. Tables 3 and 4 report the relationship of withdrawal to the number of units taken for day and evening students.

The following general findings should be noted:

1. Part time students completely withdraw at a rate five times greater than full time students.

2. Full time day students who do not select a specific departmental major are almost twice as likely to completely withdraw as students who select a specific departmental major.

3. The following departments have relatively high persistance (low complete withdrawal rates) from among their Declared Majors (full time day students).

    1. Visual Arts
    2. Foreign Language
    3. Speech
    4. Behavioral Science
    5. Physical Education
    6. Social Sciences
    7. Human Services (Transfer)

4. The following departments have relatively lower persistance (higher complete withdrawal rates) from among their full time day Declared Majors.

    1. Math
    2. Performing Arts
    3. Human Services (Vocational)
    4. Life Sciences

5. There is a direct relationship between the number of units taken and the rate of persistance.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

TABLE 3
PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS COMPLETELY WITHDRAWING
IN RELATION TO THE NUMBER
OF UNITS CARRIED AT CENSUS DATE
FALL 1973 - DAY STUDENTS

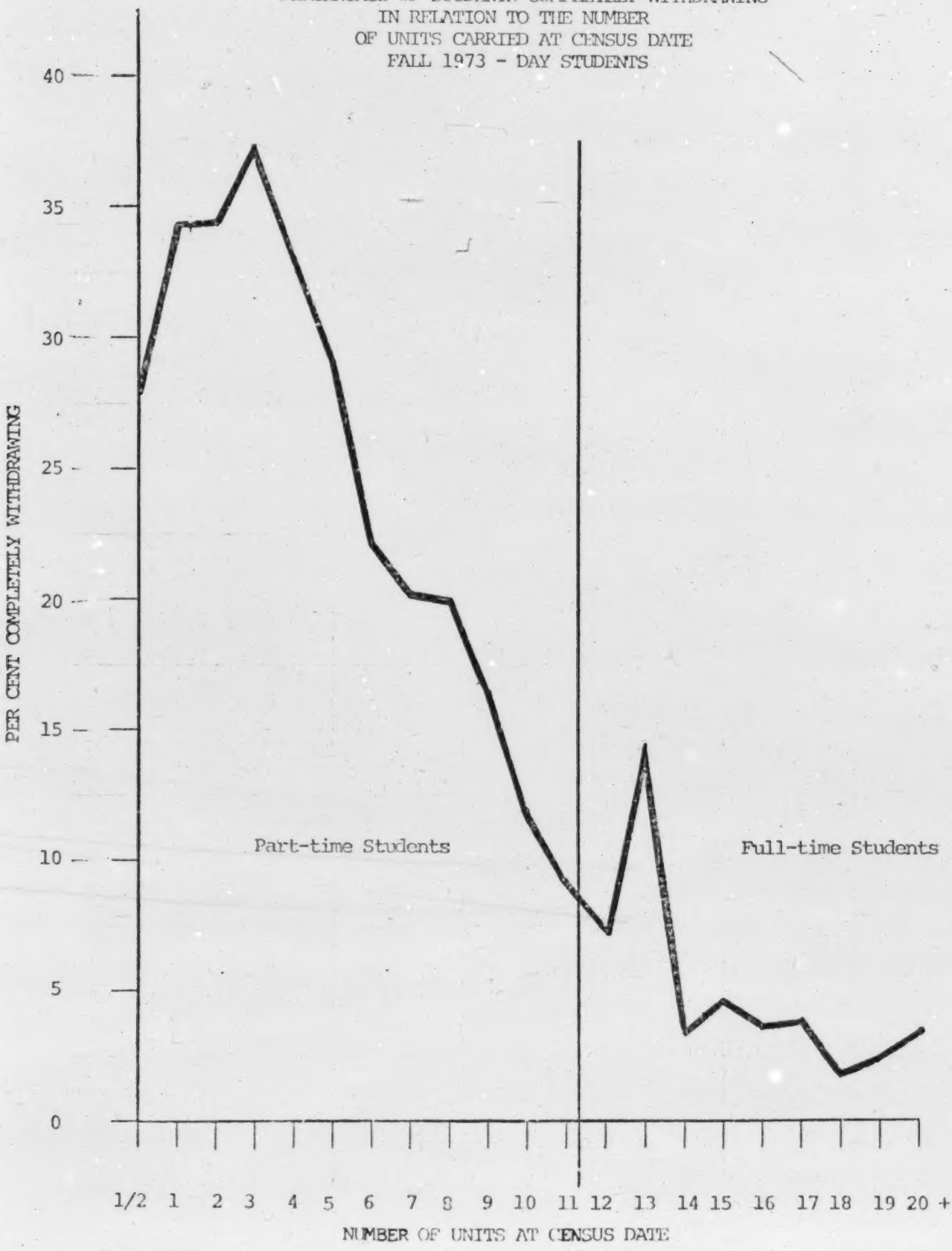
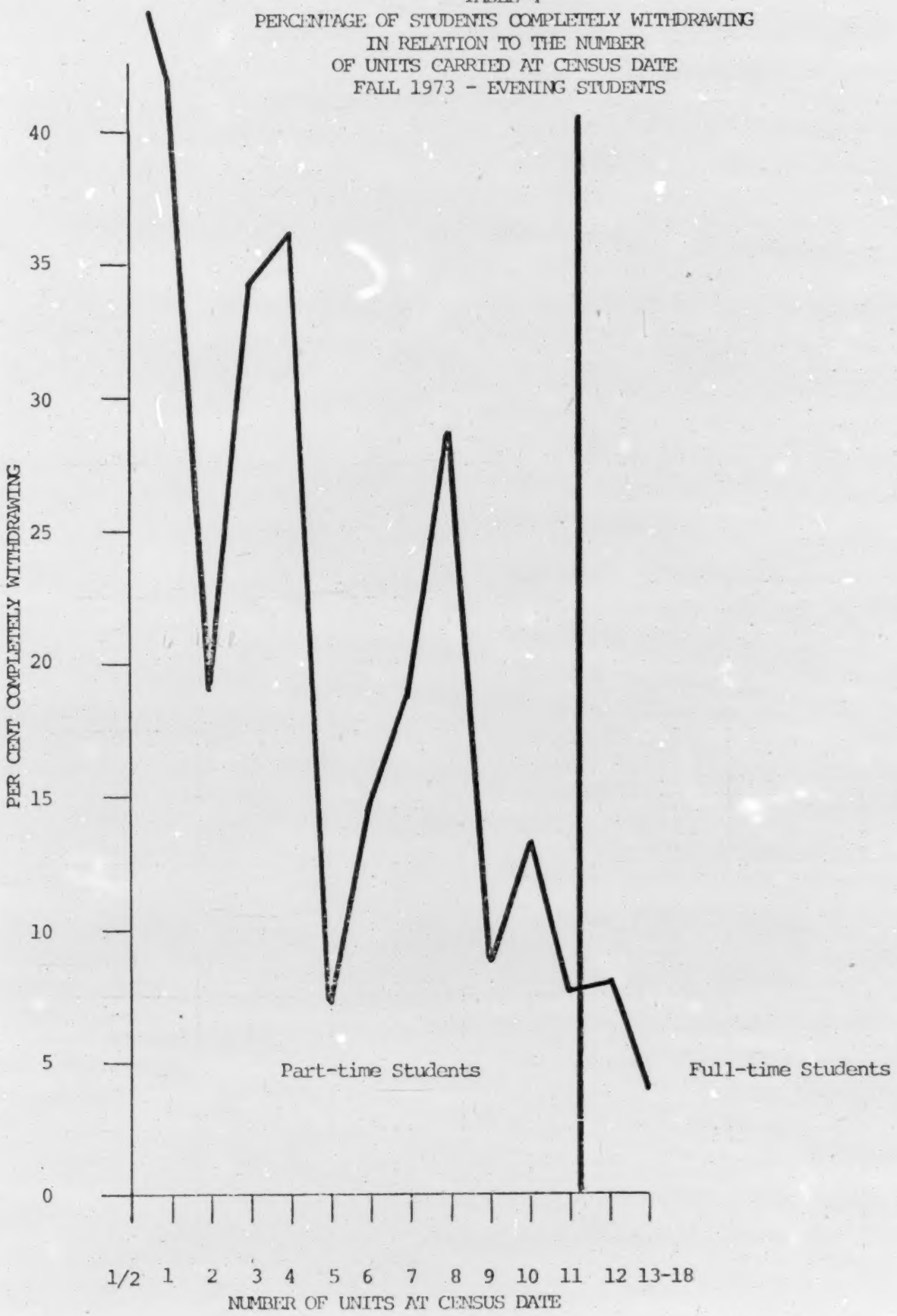


TABLE 4

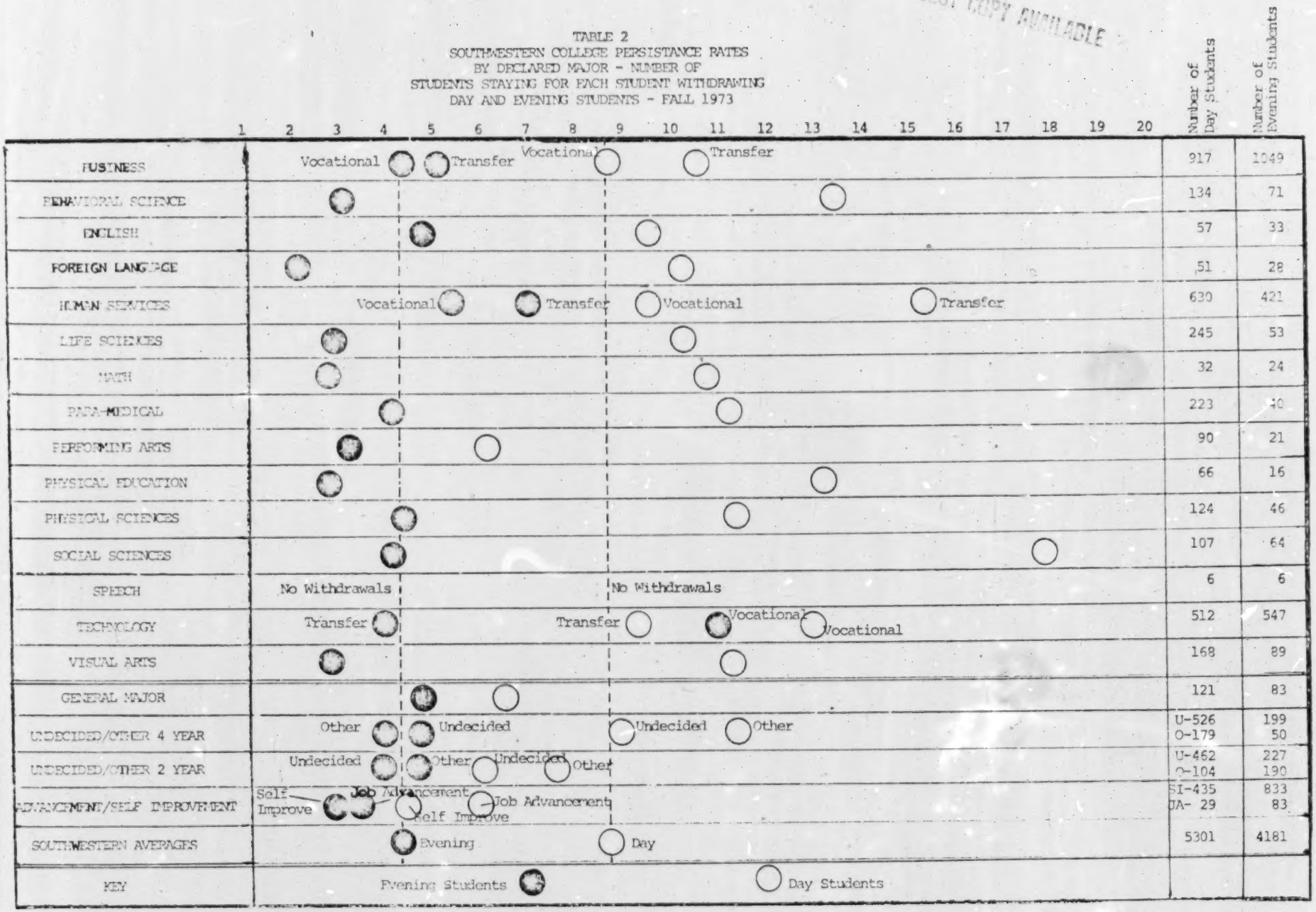
PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS COMPLETELY WITHDRAWING
IN RELATION TO THE NUMBER
OF UNITS CARRIED AT CENSUS DATE
FALL 1973 - EVENING STUDENTS



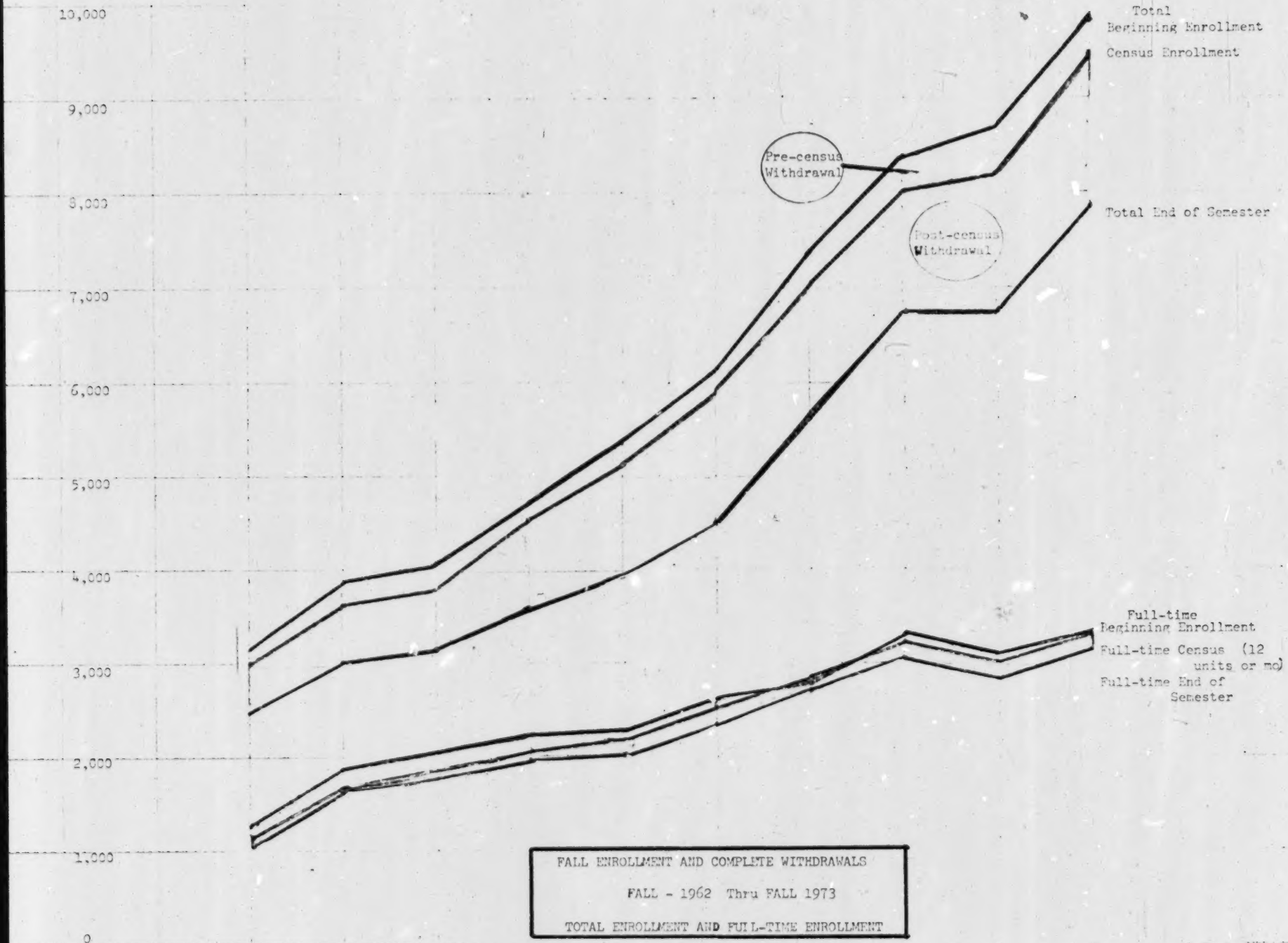
BEST COPY AVAILABLE

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

TABLE 2
SOUTHWESTERN COLLEGE PERSISTANCE RATES
BY DECLARED MAJOR - NUMBER OF
STUDENTS STAYING FOR EACH STUDENT WITHDRAWING
DAY AND EVENING STUDENTS - FALL 1973



BEST COPY AVAILABLE



FALL ENROLLMENT AND COMPLETE WITHDRAWALS

FALL - 1962 Thru FALL 1973

TOTAL ENROLLMENT AND FULL-TIME ENROLLMENT

Figure I

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

SOUTHWESTERN COLLEGE PERSISTANCE RATES
BY CHARACTERISTIC - NUMBER OF
STUDENTS STAYING FOR EACH STUDENT WITHDRAWING
DAY STUDENTS - FALL 1973

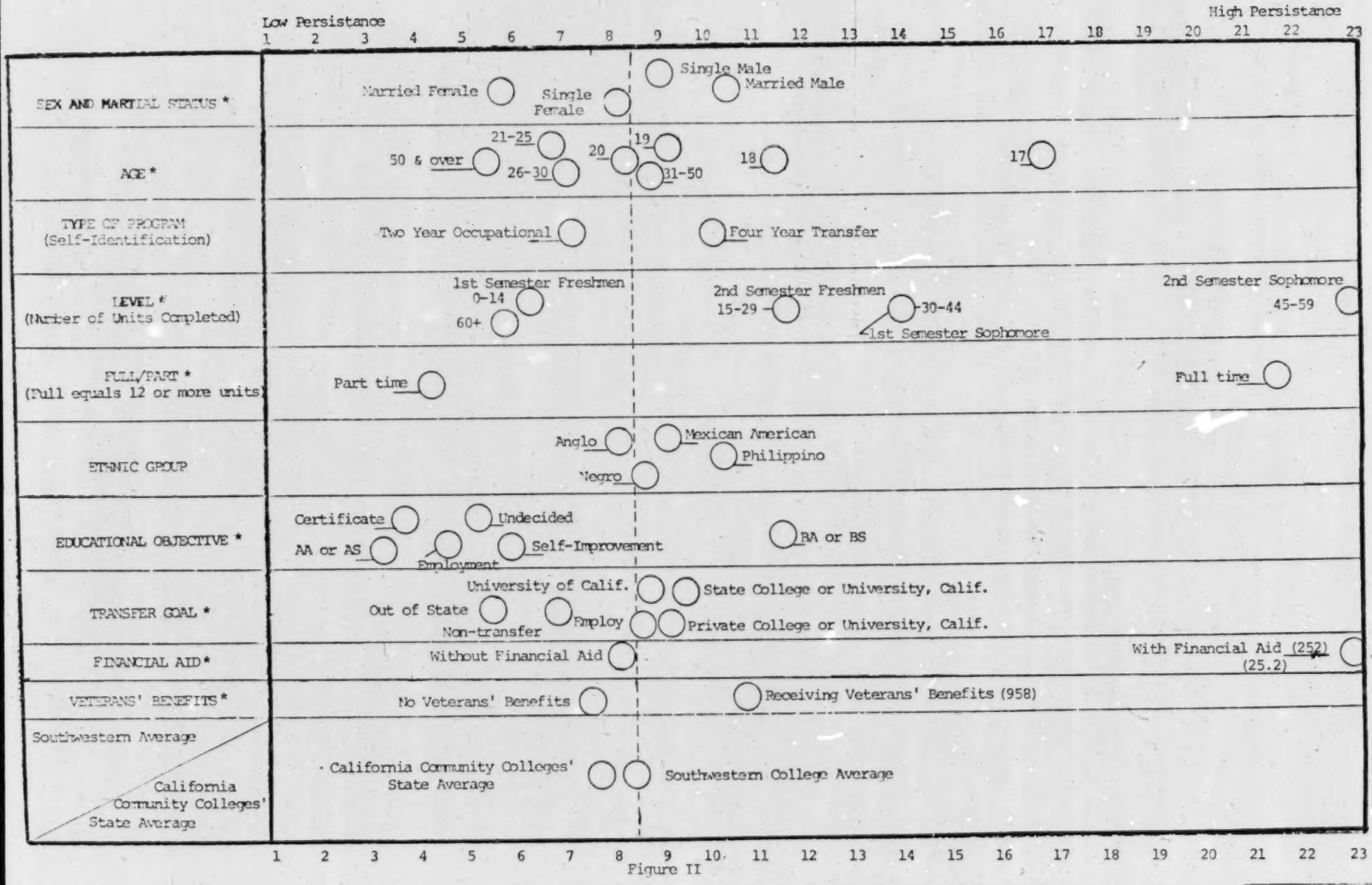


Figure II

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

SOUTHWESTERN COLLEGE PERSISTANCE RATES
BY CHARACTERISTIC - NUMBER OF
STUDENTS STAYING FOR EACH STUDENT WITHDRAWING
EVENING STUDENTS - FALL 1973

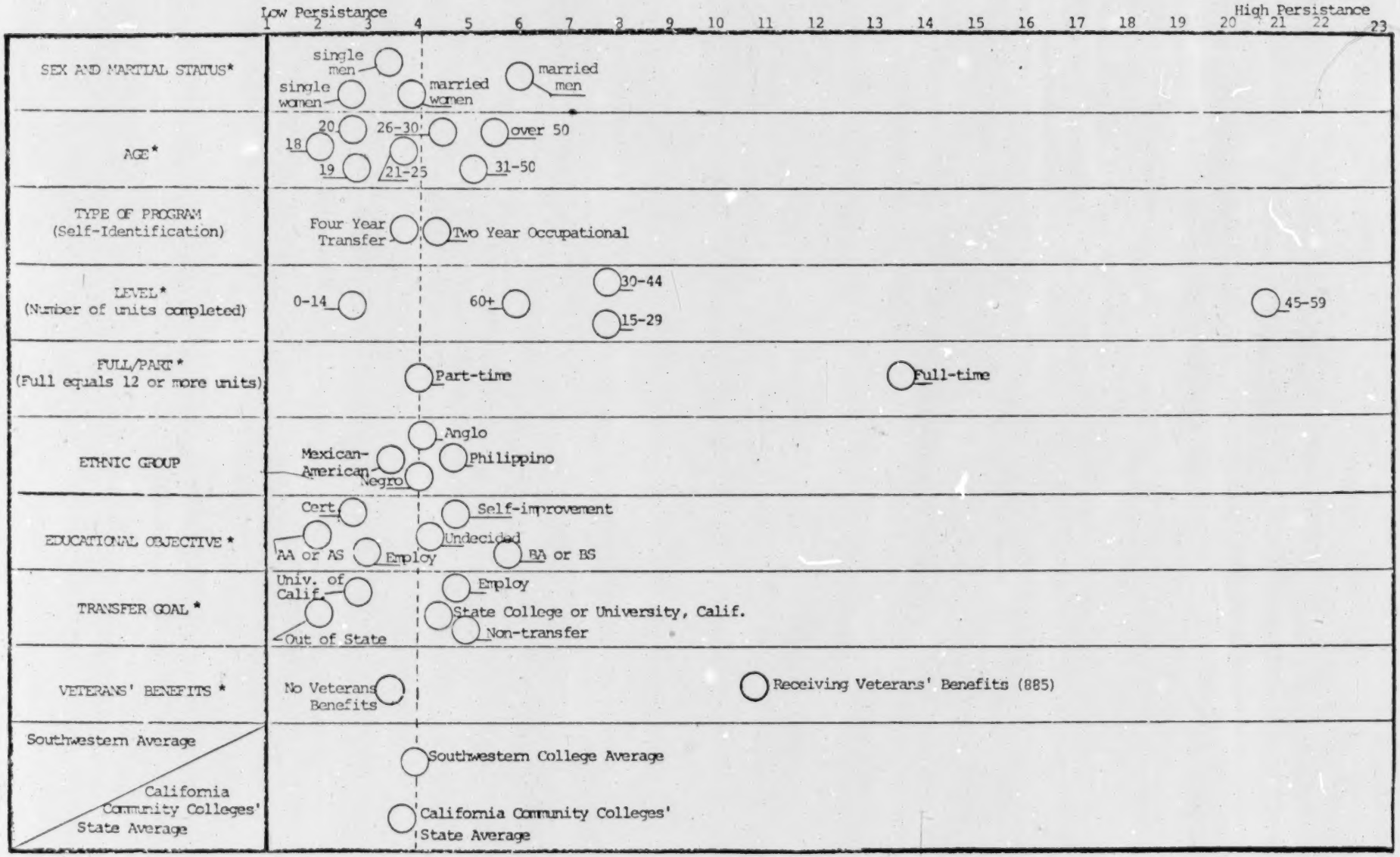


Figure III

UNIVERSITY OF CALIF.
LOS ANGELES
DEC 06 1974
CLEARINGHOUSE FOR
JUNIOR COLLEGE
INFORMATION

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

TABLE 1
SOUTHWESTERN COLLEGE PERSISTANCE RATES
BY DECLARED MAJOR - NUMBER OF
STUDENTS STAYING FOR EACH STUDENT WITHDRAWING
FULL TIME DAY AND PART TIME DAY STUDENTS